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This volume is an excellent handbook. The data are clearly presented and carefully analyzed. For every measurement taken there are tables giving the comparisons between groups from individual states and sections of the country, and between recruits of various nationalities. Charts and graphs bring out clearly the points of interest. For the student who wishes to study in even greater detail the data presented, there are tables of correlation between many pairs of measurements. A definite and valuable contribution has been made to the anthropologic data on young American men.

MARGARET E. GANTT

Monetary Policy, Being the Report of a Sub-Committee on Currency and the Gold Standard, by J. H. Clapham, C. W. Guilleband, F. Lavington, D. H. Robertson. London: P. S. King & Son. 1921. 75 pp.

The currency disorder now prevailing in what was formerly the "gold standard world" has opened another era of discussion concerning monetary problems. In Great Britain, where the currency has not depreciated beyond the hope of redemption, the discussion has already led to the collection of information and the consideration of alternative policies. This pamphlet, the report of a sub-committee appointed by the British Association for the Advancement of Science, presents the relevant statistical data for the period from 1914 to 1921, woven together by comments which indicate the significance of the changes in such matters as the volume of currency, the national debt, the balance of foreign trade, and the level of prices. On the basis of this information the report then considers two general questions: first, whether the level of prices most conducive to the general welfare would be higher or lower than the post-war level, and by how much; and, second, the desirability of a return to an effective gold standard.

In the consideration of the second question the report is most suggestive. While the restoration of the old gold standard is not viewed as the final goal of monetary policy, yet it is regarded "as a respectable interim measure the accomplishment of which would be worth some trouble and inconvenience." The possibility of reestablishing specie redemption in England seems to depend upon the relative movements of the price levels in the United States and in England. The passing of the present business depression, it is held, will furnish an opportunity for pursuing a policy which might bring English prices nearer to the gold price-level. With the return of prosperity and the increase of prices which may be expected to accompany it, the policy recommended is the restriction of the rise in English prices by moderating the expansion of bank currency. If, during the same period, the United States made full use of the available bank credit, the gold price-level would rapidly advance, and "the gap between the American and the English price-levels would, for the time being, be at least partially closed." The adoption of such policy, it is recognized, would require of borrowers in England, both private and public, an unaccustomed restraint in the use of bank credit; and, further, the success of the policy would depend largely upon the rediscount policies of the Federal Reserve Banks. The conclusion is, apparently, that if the United States will indulge sufficiently in a differential inflation, then England may be able to resume specie payments.

The argument in favor of restraining the boom and controlling the expansion of credit as a means of restoring the gold standard is put very briefly. The member of the committee who wrote this portion of the report, Mr. Robertson, is to deal more fully with the proposal in a forthcoming book.

W. W. STEWART

Forty-fifth Annual Report of Criminal Statistics of Canada, for the Year Ended September 30, 1920. Ottawa: F. A. Acland. 1921. xviii, 326 pp.

An inhabitant of the United States has only to read this report to be thoroughly ashamed of the backward position of his own country in the collection of criminal statistics. This report, printed in both French and English, contains the kind of information that ought to be readily available for the student and the statesman concerning crimes and criminals in the United States. When one pauses to consider the fact that the United States publishes no judicial criminal statistics and has not published any prison criminal statistics of more recent date than 1910, one can but marvel that Canada is now publishing its forty-fifth annual report.

À propos of the present vague discussion in the United States over the so-called "crime wave," it is refreshing to know what is actually happening in Canada. There was an increase in convictions in 1920 over those in 1919 of 25.14 per cent; but the increase is almost entirely in non-indictable offenses. The increase in indictable offenses was but 0.25 per cent, the lowest ratio of increase since 1917. Serious crimes have, therefore, received a decided check. The percentage that juvenile conviction made of the total convictions has also fallen. Prior to 1919 this percentage had been increasing steadily for a period of fourteen years.

The report throws considerable light on the efficiency of the machinery of justice. For the first time the report contains police statistics, covering eighty-eight towns and cities. From these, it appears that 183,126 offenses were known to the police and that 161,468 persons were arrested or summoned to stand trial, a proportion that is surely commendable. However, the ratio of arrests to known offenses is not so high for certain crimes that are now puzzling the police in the United States. For example, there were 5,655 burglaries, house, and shop breakings, and only 2,317 arrests; 663 highway robberies were reported, yet the courts dealt with but 332. Encouraging, however, is the fact that the police recovered 3,534 of 3,682 automobiles that were reported stolen. Turning to the work of the courts we find that the percentage of convictions for indictable offenses has been steadily increasing for a long period of years. It is now 79.8 per cent.

Interesting too is the fact that the report shows a steady increase in the use of fines and the suspended sentence, while, on the other hand, sentences to terms of imprisonment have decreased, especially those sentences of five years and over. This shift away from severity of punishment has not brought any noticeable increase in the number of habitual criminals. Indeed, the percentage of those convicted two or more times has remained nearly fixed at fifteen for the last thirty years.